

Joseph Dixon

1907

Field notes, Alaska





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Windfall Harbor

Admiralty Island, Alaska

April 17 - May 19

We arrived here April 17 about noon. The snow is still lying thick on the mountains and extends clear down to the beach. It is from 4 to 6 ft. deep on the level and the only place you can go is along the beach at low tide or in the boat.

Spruce and fir form the most of the timber and there is a fringe of alders all along the shore. Nothing is leafing out at all yet. The natives say that the season is behind time about a month.

The mammals seen so far here are the finback whale and a white footed mouse. Of birds varied thrush, Sitka kinglet, junco and a pine siskin have been taken and there are several kinds of duck and a few geese in the harbor.

— April 21 —

Mr. Littlejohn caught a Microtus last night and several weasels tracks have been seen but none located yet.

There is quite a well defined belt of elder bushes back about 100 yards from the beach.

I saw a robin yesterday and shot a song sparrow and saw several others. I saw several chickadees today and secured 5 siskins yesterday. Most of them were males. A raven was shot over camp this morning.

We went hunting grouse this evening and secure a ♂ and ♀. The ♀ was shot with the axe! but she was not more than 10 ft. away on a log. The log was about 4 ft. off the ground and the dog was under the bird but she kept looking at us and didn't fly. The ♂ was sitting about 25 ft up in a small spruce and was located by his hooting which sounded somewhat like a horned owl. The ♂ weighed slightly over 3 lbs.

- April 29 -

We have taken 5 shrews to this date. It seems as tho one has to catch out the Peromyscus and then one can get Myotis and after the Myotis are out of the way the shrews come in.

The weather has been very warm and clear for six days now. The thermometer has gone as high as 70° but it always freezes ice at night.

Arsudian brought us two mink which he had caught about Apr. 26. He said that he had only caught 11 during the entire winter.

Several new birds have been taken. Sandwich Sparrow, White-winged Scoter, Ridgeback Gull, Marbled Murrelet, Bonaparte Gull, Townsend Sparrow, Northern red-breasted Sapsucker and a redbreasted Nuthatch.

We saw a big owl flying over the beach the other night. We heard another big one and a little one. At least we thought it was an owl and we will probably find out later.

- May 1 -

We saw our first bat tonight. It was flitting about the trees along the beach and probably belonged to the Myotis group. Mr. Littlejohn and I went over to a little island about 3 or 4 miles from camp and got a leuciscent (?) warbler, 4 Alentoid Gannax, 1 black turnstone and a surf bird. The last 3 species were together in one flock of about a dozen birds. We found a bald eagle's nest yesterday and I climbed in the afternoon. The eggs were 116 ft. 5 inches from the ground. The nest tree was a large spruce tree on the north end of Windfall ~~Harbor~~ <sup>Island</sup>. The nest measured 6' 5" x 6' 11" x 4 ft outside and 16 x 16 x 7 inches inside. It was lined with moss, grass and duck feathers. The 2 eggs were both fresh. We found another nest today. It was about 50 ft up in an old dead tree. Both birds were near by. Saw a flock of about 20 green winged teal today.



- May 3 -

I collected the ♀ bird nest and 4 eggs of a Townsend fox sparrow this morning. I found the nest a week ago today by watching the ♀ carry feathers to line the nest. The nest was placed in some drooping spruce limbs that hung down almost on the beach. The nest was about 8 ft. up and was well concealed as the place was dark and damp and the nest was almost over a pool of water. Dissection showed that the ♀ had laid all the eggs she was going to. Incubation had begun in 3 of the eggs. The lower part of the nest was built of ~~moss~~ and it was quite bulky resembling a shrike's nest in some respects. \*

While I was cutting this nest down I heard the "whir" of heavy wings close by and so I picked up the shot gun and looked around I soon found a ♀ Sooty grouse sitting on a limb about 10 ft. up and I promptly "axed" her. On the way back I found a red breasted <sup>multicapitatus</sup> Sapsucker nest in a dead spruce stub.

- May 8 -

Mr. Littlejohn has taken 4 or 5 crossbills of the American form and one male white-winged. They come down to the trees along the beach early in the morning. Several flocks of shore birds have been seen lately and specimens of Wilson Snipe, Black Turnstone, Gentian Sandpiper and Semipalmated Sandpiper have been secured.

A ♀ grouse shot on May 3 contained an egg ready to be laid. She had evidently laid some eggs all ready. A ♀ Harris Grouse shot May 5 was evidently laying eggs as well as a ♀ Northern Breasted Sapsucker shot the same day. A ♀ Red-backed Chickadee shot May 7 was laying or had laid. All of the crossbills were in good breeding condition.

Two Myrtle Warblers have been secured - a ♀ (laying) and a ♂. Merger, Am. Pipit and several Sandwich Sparrows as well.

- May 13 -

There has been a storm on for the last three days. On May 9 we took a ♀ nest and 7 fresh eggs of the Western Golden Crowned Kinglet. Mr. Littlejohn found the nest about 10 days ago when we were looking for a Townsend sparrow nest. The nest was almost over the water at high tide. It was placed on the south side of a fir tree about 12 ft up. The nest was semi-pensile and was composed of green moss and was lined ~~to~~ with feathers, some of which were evidently from a crossbill. The nest was compact and was higher than wide and was very artfully concealed. The parents were not at all solicitous about their nest and would scarcely come near. The eggs are perhaps a little smaller than a bushtit and longer drawn out. Toward the middle they are encircled with a wreath of fine golden specks. The ground color was a creamy white. Dissection showed that the ♀ had finished her set.



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On the 11<sup>th</sup> we went over to visit a nesting colony of crows on a small island but all we found was a sly old raven sneaking around some torn up deserted nests; the crows had left. As we over we saw 7 bald eagles sitting on some dead trees that stood out on a point. They were evidently waiting for some thing in the straits. A flock of loons were evidently chasing a school of herring and must have driven the fish to the surface. All at once one of the eagles swooped down caught a fish, let out a shrill scream, and returned to his perch.

Within 3 minutes there were eagles coming in from every direction. I counted 15 at once and there were more coming. After a few minutes every thing was calm and quiet. The eagles returned to their perches and the loons went on fishing.

Yesterday during the storm Mr. Littlejohn went out and got a shot at a large flock of waders. He got 7 surf birds and 3 or 4 Black turnstones. There must have been at least 150 surf birds in the flock. 5 out of the 7 secured were males.

Bear skull no. 3. Collected by Windfall Jackson May 6. 1907.

Jackson and his squaw went out in their canoe to hunt bear on the east side of the Harbor. They discovered a small bear on the beach. Jackson landed and sneaked up and succeeded in killing the bear with 2 shots from his Winchester 30-30. Suddenly a big bear came out from the timber and Jackson promptly made for the canoe. But the squaw thought that he ought to be made of sterner stuff so she quickly pushed the canoe out into deep water regardless of Jackson's cries. During the excitement the big bear made away back to the woods.

## Mole Harbor Admiralty Isl.

May 19-

June 11-

We arrived here Sunday noon May 19, after a stormy voyage from Windfall Harbor. The country here is somewhat different than that at Windfall Harbor. There is a series of low rolling hills toward the west, which reach an altitude of 575 feet back from the beach about 2 miles. Then there is a steep slope with a lake at the bottom. The whole interior of the island west of here is low land with a border of mountains all around it.

A Mr. Al. Hasselborg of Juneau had previously discovered these 3 lakes while prospecting and he was perhaps the only white man that knew anything about the trip to this time. He was employed as guide and took us over. The first two lakes are practically one. They are about  $2 \times 1$  and  $1 \times \frac{1}{2}$  miles in extent respectively. They have an altitude of about 300 feet and extend in a northwesterly direction. There

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is a short rapid stream connecting these two lakes with a large lake some 10 miles long that lies almost north and south. Some <sup>parts</sup> of the lakes are very deep as a 100 ft. line would not reach bottom a few yards off shore. The outlet of the big lake is in the south end and evidently empties into Kootznahoo Inlet on the west side of the Island. There is

a large number of beaver about the lake shores and quiet bay and in fact clear back in the woods where they have dammed up the small springs and made meadows.

In several places we saw large dams, which in one place were particularly fine. One dam was from 3 to 4 feet high and at least 100 yards long. It was arched against the stream at the point where it was necessary that it should be the strongest. The water thus backed covered what we thought was nearly 5 acres.

The dams were built for the most part of sticks with a liberal application of mud and stones dumped in afterward. The beaver uses his front feet for conveying mud, like a *Thomomys*, and does not carry it on his tail as has been supposed by some. Altho the beaver cuts considerable alder wood we did not find a single limb with the bark peeled off so that it is evident that they use the wood in their dam work and do not eat the bark as one might suppose at first sight. They seem to feed mainly on spruce bark. They prefer willow but that only grows in a few favored localities. If no spruce is to be had they eat crab apple and huckleberry. All of the specimens secured were fat and in good condition.

The majority of the beavers lived in the banks while others were civilized (lived in houses). Most of the bank beavers were old bachelors so needed no house. We saw 3 or 4 beavers out in the bright sunlight

but as a rule they begin to come out about 6 o'clock in the evening and return by 7 in the morning.

Their houses are for the most part rather poorly built; just a large pile of sapling 3 or 4 feet high and about 10 or 12 feet in diameter at the base. Several ~~houses~~ <sup>houses</sup> were well built and partially covered with mud.

The beaver seems by nature to be a shy animal but is still an animal with considerable curiosity. By stealth we managed to get within 15 feet of one but upon the slightest movement he brought his tail down on the water making a noise like a small firecracker and went down with a splash before we could photograph him.

On May 25<sup>th</sup> we again returned to the lakes. We arrived at the upper end of the big lake about 5 o'clock in the evening and made camp. After supper we went out in the canoe

to look for bear upon the mountain side. One was soon located and one of the party started up the snowslide after the bear which was about 1000 feet above us. Two of us staid in the boat and by motions with the paddle kept the hunter informed of the movements of the bear. In about 40 minutes we heard 6 shots and then we heard <sup>something</sup> come rolling down the mountain with dull thuds. It was the bear. He fell and rolled about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile and then lodged behind a log or he would have slid clear down the snow slide into the lake.

When we skinned him the next morning we found that 4 out of the six bullets had taken effect. The bear's nose was mashed and his skull was cracked by his rough tumble to say nothing of his numerous bruises and cuts. When we skinned him we found numerous old scars which led us to believe that he had fallen before.

He was 6 ft. 3 inches long and judging from the skull I should say that he



was at least an average sized bear. The bears had come down from the upper timber line and were feeding on grass that grew in the open places and among the alders away up on the mountain side. We saw two huge ones one evening about 3 miles from camp but they were in a ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> that it would take at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  a day to get too. They could go with ease up snow slides where a man could not go at all. On the top of a mountain we found the heather all torn up where the bears had been digging out meadow mice the previous fall. The mice were abundant above timber line and we saw several scurrying about at mid-day. We saw one *Microtus* deliberately jump off the edge of a pool of water and dive for at least 6 feet. While swimming under water the fore legs were held up against the body and short rapid strokes were made with the hind feet.

Three ptarmigans were secured on the summit of a round topped mountain.

They were all males and were still in the white winter plumage on May 31. They were evidently breeding or just going to. At this date the ♀ was almost brown but still had a few white wing feathers. The males would fly out over the mountainside, hover a moment and then swoop down with great speed and alight on a rock. Their movements were accompanied at intervals by a rasping cry similar to the sound produced by running a nail over a stiff comb. The bright orange comb over the eye was very prominent at this date and a few brown feathers were beginning to show on the head and necks of 2 individuals.

The following list of birds were observed on or about the lakes:

7. Loon - several pairs were seen about the edges of the lakes where they evidently breed. (1) ~~See not common~~
- 11 - Red throated Loon, several pairs.

kept up a continual unearthly squawking and saw-filing around the camp during the evening.

<sup>51</sup>  
~~144~~ - ~~Glaucon-winged Gull~~ <sup>Herring Gull</sup>. A silent solitary individual hung, like a departed spirit around the lakes as tho he was the guardian angel of the place. [55] one seen.

132 - Mallard. Each outlying beaver pond usually had its pair of mallards. The females were seen coming into the lake at about 6:30 in the evening to feed. On May 25. A very small duckling of this species, was secured from a flock of 7 or 8.

129 - American Mergansers were on hand as usual.

151 - Am. Golden-eye. This species was quite common.

155 - Harlequin Duck. 3 males we seen in company with one ♀ near the north end of the lake.

172b - White-checked Goose. A pair of these birds came and roosted on a sand spit near camp almost every

night.

263 - Spotted Sandpeppers were quite common along the rocky shores of the lake

297a - Sooty Grouse. Grouse were heard hooting in the woods, almost every day

302 Rock Ptarmigan. 5 birds of this species were observed on the top of a mountain at an elevation of ~~1600~~<sup>2300</sup> or ~~1800~~ feet.

332. Sharp-shinned Hawk. A ♂, ♀ nest and incomplete set of 2 eggs were taken on May 24.

337 b. Western Red-tail. A pair of redtails were evidently breeding near the head of one of the lakes as they were seen repeatedly in that locality and were loath to leave.

352a Northern Bald Eagle - A single individual was seen. (364) 1 also.

393c. Harris Woodpecker - These birds were fairly common about the lakes and their slow drumming could be heard quite often. Their drumming resembled

the clicking of a telegraph instrument so we dubbed them "Telegraph woodpecks" to distinguish them from the sapsuckers

403a - Northern Red-breasted Sapsucker -

Sapsuckers were frequently seen among the alders on the lake shores

478 - Steller Jay - Several were seen one of which had a young varied thrush in its beak and was closely pursued by the irate ♂ thrush.

489 - Northwest Crow - A lone individual was seen.

522 - White-winged Crossbill - Two or three pairs were seen in the alders along the lake shore

533 - Pine Siskin - Several seen.

542b. Little John saw a pair of these sparrows and approached to within a few feet of them.

567a - Oregon Junco - About 6 juncos were seen.

585a - Townsend Sparrow - A pair of these sparrows were secured.

613 - Barn Swallow - 6 or 8 were seen and 1 secured

614. Tree swallow. About 50 were seen. 1697. Pipit! One shot May 31.

722a Western Winter Wren - One of these little wrens was building her nest in a bunch of moss about 20 feet above our camp. We never saw both birds at the same time.

728 - Red-breasted Nuthatch. A pair evidently had a nest near camp.

741 - Chestnut-backed Chickadee -

749a - Sitka Kinglet

These two species seem to be every where you go. Not many in one place but we rarely go all day without seeing one -

763a Northern Varied Thrush. As many as a dozen birds were seen carrying food to their young.

## A Trip Across Admiralty Island

We left Mole Harbor, on the east side of the island about 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning June 11, 1907. The party consisted of Miss A. M. Alexander Allen C. Hasselberg and myself. It took us an hour and 25 minutes to reach the first lake which has been named Lake Alexander. The canoe had been left there previously so we embarked for our trip down the lakes and river.

We soon passed thru Beaver Lake and made a short portage to Hasselberg Lake and then 20 minutes paddling brought us to the outlet and the head of the river.

We had to portage around a rapids about a quarter of a mile long and then we came to a big deep channel about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile long that ran almost parallel with more rapids. We found a number of such old channels that had evidently been robbed by the newer channel, of its water. By making short portages down the bed of the



old stream we succeeded in reaching the river again without dodging thru the rapids. In these ponds we saw a number of beaver houses and lots of piles of sticks that they had chewed the bark off of. In one place we found a beaver and otter trail that connected the stream and pond. This trail was about 8 inches wide 50 yards long and from 4 in. to 3 feet deep. The trail had been traveled a great deal as even the rocks had been worn smooth by the beaver sliding over them.

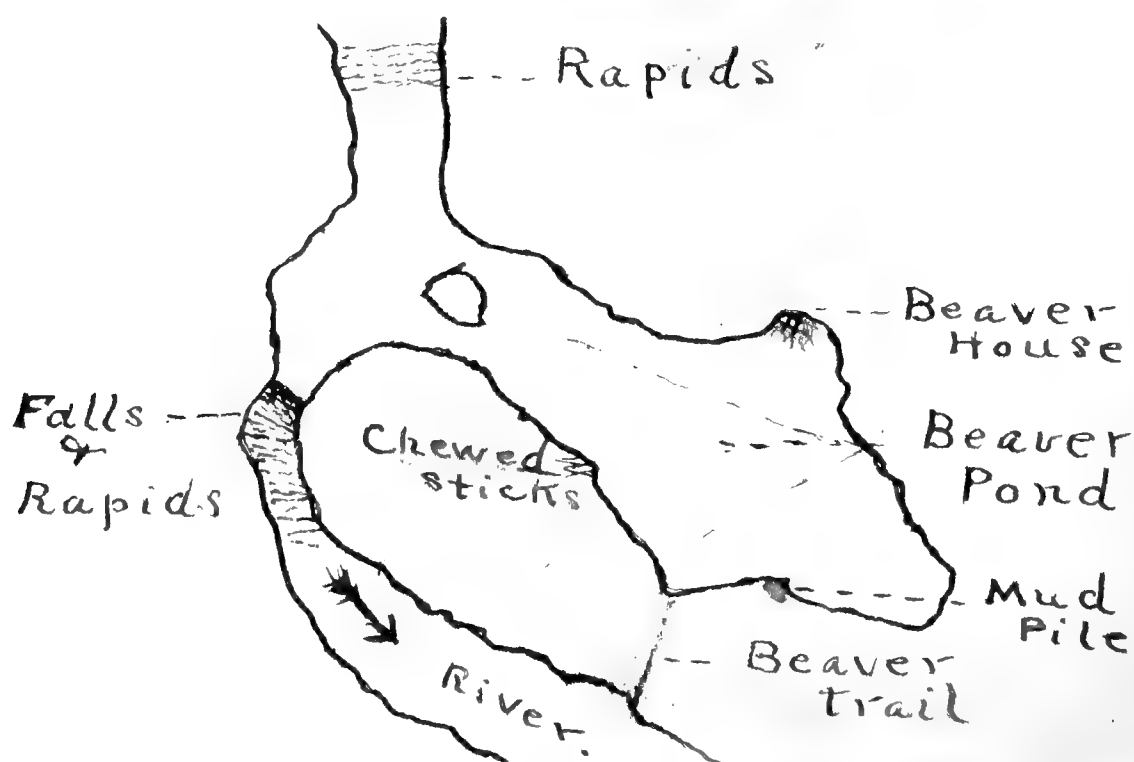
We camped for the night just above a large rapids and waterfall and the next morning we made a portage of about one half mile thru an open park before we came to the river again. We ate dinner at another rapids and spent the rest of the afternoon making a portage of about a mile and a half. We did not see much beaver signs for there on as there was about a 40 ft. fall and the river was dammed with large logs crisscrossed. Below the jam there were willow flats where the river

widened out and we had fine going for a mile or so. We saw 4 deer here in a short time and there were lots of bear signs in the marsh along the river bank. We passed several small rapids and finally came to a 30 foot water fall where the river dropped into tide water but after we had gone a mile below the falls we were not sure that we were in salt water as there was so much water running out.

We supposed that we were some where in Mitchell Bay at the head of Kootz~~an~~ahoo Inlet and the supposition was correct as we came out into the bay after we had wound in and out among some islands for a while. It took us a little over 2 days to go from Mole Harbor to salt water in Kootz~~an~~ahoo Inlet. The total distance was between 15 and 18 miles. The falls marked on the "Survey Map" is not the one that we came by or else they are placed wrong on the map. We went on down to the entrance of Mitchell where the channel narrows

to 150 yards making a very dangerous rapids when the tide runs out. We made camp here and got up and off the next morning just as the tide turned and started out so we got safely thru the channel but struck some bad tide rips and rapids near the entrance of the inlet. We rounded the point and were soon down to Killisnoo where our launch awaited us.

Of mammals we saw but few on the trip but we were certain from signs that we saw that there was an abundance of beaver and deer and quite a few bear, otter and mink. The following diagram will show a typical beaver pond in the river.



There were more birds along the river than anywhere else that I have been on the island. The following is a list of birds observed while others were seen but the river was so swift that we couldn't stop to identify or secure them.

7. Loon. 4 or 5 were seen in Mitchell Bay.

128. <sup>Am.</sup> Merganser. A ♀ and 3 young were seen near the falls at the head of Kootznahoo Inlet.

151- Am. Golden eye. A pair were seen near Hasselborg Lake.

155- Harlequin Duck - A pair were seen about half way down the river.

172 b. White cheeked goose.

A nest was found which was under a hemlock tree in a meadow at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from water. The nest was merely a shallow depression thickly lined with goose down. There had been 7 eggs in the nest. I caught a lone gosling in a beaver pond about

$\frac{1}{4}$  mile distant.

194a. Northwest coast Heron-

Four herons were seen on a small island in Mitchell Bay and one was secured.

297a. Sooty Grouse-

Only two grouse were heard hooting on the entire trip.

337b. Western Redtail.-

Two redtails were seen near the falls at the head of Kootzuahoo Inlet but they did not want to be collected.

356- Duck Hawk-

About a mile north of the Indian village at the entrance of Kootzuahoo Inlet there are some fairly high limestone cliffs on which a duck hawk had its nest.

The nest was under the roots of an alder bush that drooped down near the top of the cliff about 100 feet above the breakers.

We were there on two different occasions but never saw the ♂ altho the ♀ kept flying around "ki-yi-ing" most of the time. On June 16 the nest contained 3 downy young which I should judge to be

about 10 days old. They were hungry so I took them along and they have eaten greedily 5 times a day ever since. The ♀ was also secured but fell in the foaming breakers and was almost lost.

364. Am. Osprey.

Four or 5 Ospreys were seen at Killisnoo.

403 a Northern Redbreasted Sapsucker.  
Several were seen along the river.

433 - Rufous Hummingbird.

A brilliant ♂ was seen on the river bank on June 12.

464. Western Flycatcher.

This species was heard commonly along the river banks.

478. Steller Jay.

Several were seen all along the route.

489. Northwest Crow.

One was seen at Hasselborg Lake. They are abundant around Killisnoo where they are the town scavengers and the Indians get angry if you

Shoot any crows.

486a - Northern Raven -

quite common around Killisnoo.

521. Am. Crossbill.

A family of 6; 4 young and 2 old ones were seen near Killisnoo on June 16. The young were fully feathered but the old were still feeding them.

522 - White winged Crossbill.

A very brilliant ♂ was secured on the river on June 13. It was feeding among a flock of 6 or 8 when shot and was in good breeding condition.

533 - Pine Siskin

Large flock of 2 or 3 hundred were seen about half way down the river.

568a Oregon Junco.

Several were seen on the river banks.

581 f. Sooty Song Sparrow.

Song Sparrows were common on the beach at Killisnoo.

585a Townsend Sparrow.

Common along the river where a breeding ♂ was secured.



613. Barn Swallow. A pair which were evidently building a nest were seen at Killisnoo.

646a. Leuciscent Warbler.

Only one was seen.

701. Am. Dipper.

Several were seen flying up and down the river.

722a Western Winter Wren.

One was seen on the river.

741. Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Several were seen at Killisnoo

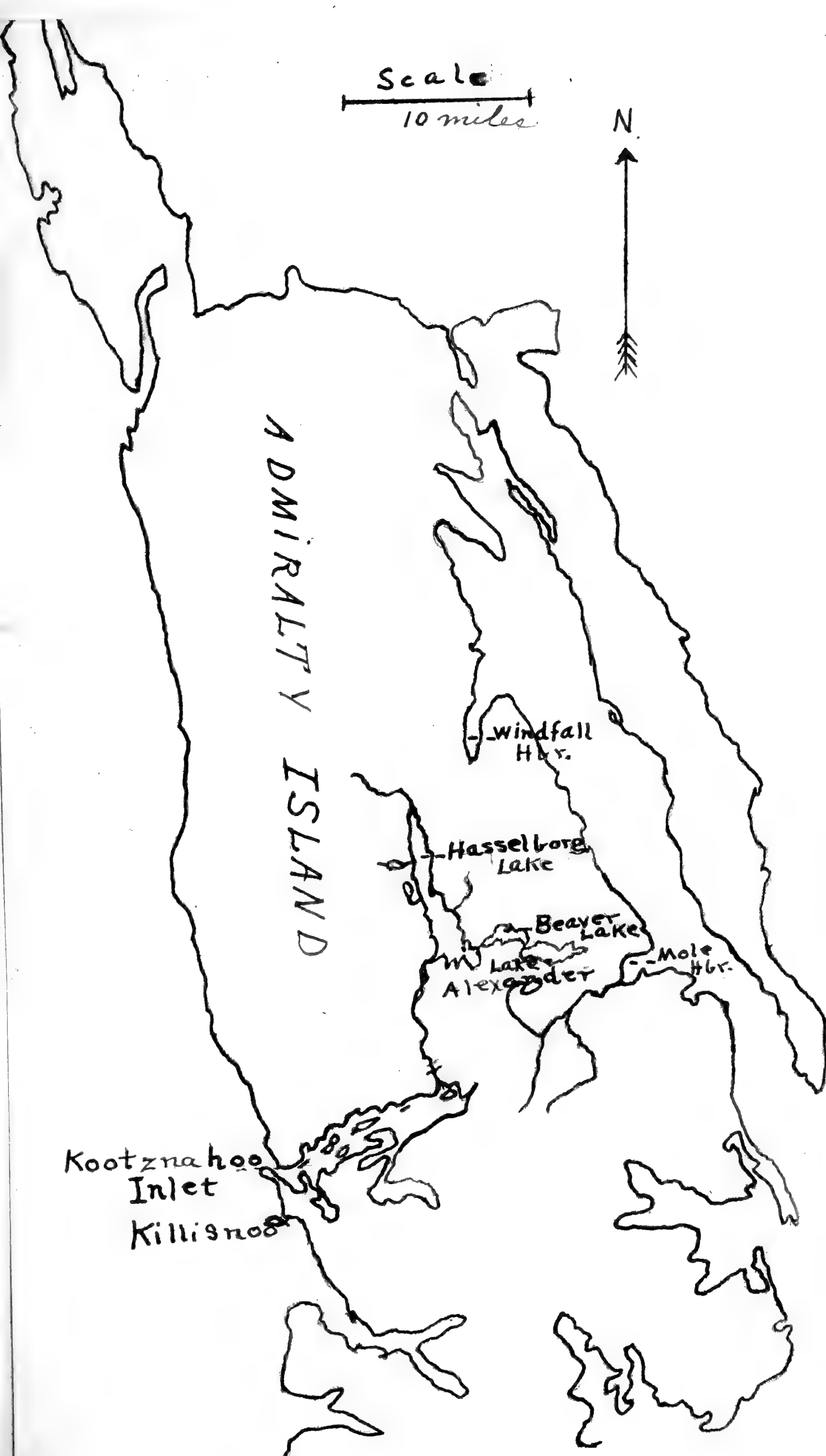
749a. Setha Kinglet.

Heard every day of the trip.

763a. Northern Varied Thrush.

Several were seen.





# Chichagof Island

Hooniah. (Port Fredrick)

June 21 - 27 - 1907.

We arrived at Hooniah P.O. on the morning of June 20 and made camp about 5 miles west of the town where a large stream emptied into the ocean. The river valley ran back 10 or 15 miles and was from 1 to 4 miles broad. Parts of this valley near the river banks were covered with willow and salmon berry thickets which gave way farther back to firm open grass covered meadows many acres in extent.

The sides of the valleys and the mountains were covered, as usual with spruce and hemlock timber with thickets of devil club and salmon berry as underbrush.

Around an old Indian house I caught some 10 *Peromyscus* which seem to be different from either the Baranof or Admiralty Island mice as they were not so large as those taken on Baranof and not so small as those secured on Admiralty. Shrews were quite numerous but were smaller and had whiter

bellies than any that we had found previously. No bats were seen. Few deer inhabit that part of the island and only 3 or 4 were seen.

On the summit of a mountain some 5 miles west of our camp we found a large *Myxocotus* fairly common at an altitude of 2600 feet. They seemed to be larger than any that we had found elsewhere and were apparently only found above timber line as we saw no signs at all in the grass patches farther down and none were caught below 2300 feet altitude.

X Bear signs were not even common in the most favorable localities. Mr. Allen E. Hasselborg succeeded in securing a young male and a ♀ in a thick swamp. <sup>MV 323</sup> He had struck their tracks and was following them along down the stream among the thick alders. His attention was attracted by some animal crashing thru the thick brush and alders along side of the trail that he was

following but as he had only glimpses  
 of a yellowish animal jumping nimbly  
 thru the brush he thought that it must  
 be a deer. He had only taken a few cautious  
 steps when he saw the bear standing with  
 his head up looking over a log at him  
 only a few yards away. The bear had  
 evidently got wind of the hunter from  
 behind and had rushed on down past  
 the trail. A hasty shot went high  
 and hit the bear too far up in the  
 head to kill him. As the bear turned  
 Hasselborg got in a good shot in the  
 shoulder which the bear made  
 off. Hasselborg was able to follow the  
 trail thru the brush but slowly and  
 was surprised when he came out in a  
 small opening to be charged upon by  
 a smaller bear which came straight for  
 him with intentions that could not be  
 well misunderstood. The first shot  
 struck her in the throat and must  
 have gone on down thru her vitals  
 but it took 2 more shots to lay her  
 out. H. took the skull feet and

measurements only as the hair was coming out of the skin in large patches and started on after the other bear which he found lying under a densely drooping fir tree surrounded by a thicket. He approached to within 30 feet of the bear before he saw that the bear was breathing heavily and twisting around. There was a dead calm with not a breath of air so that the bear didn't catch his scent and Hasselborg waited anxiously for the drive light to get a shot at the bear's neck as he didn't want to spoil his skull. He kept seeing a large black object moving slowly back and forth so drew a bead so as to shoot what he supposed was the bear's neck.

At the shot the bear turned a back somersault right towards the hunter and let out a muffled roar. But he was so surprised that he did not see the hunter standing beside a tree and made off with long rapid bounds down thru the alders. It turned

out afterwards that the bear was evidently in great pain from the wound in the shoulder and had been lying on his side with his feet in the air and what Hasselborg thought was his head was only a big hairy hind foot as it had been nearly shot off when he came to skin the bear.

The bear went about a quarter of a mile before he laid down again and Hasselborg could not see him at all for the thick brush but could tell about where the bear was by seeing the tops of the alders tremble as the bear gasped for breath. Hasselborg got up on an old dead tree trunk to get a better look and just then the bear saw him and charged with a roar. Hasselborg shot. The bullet went thru the bear's cheek and into his neck. Another shot broke the bear's neck but it was fully 15 minutes before he quit squirming and pulsation ceased. Five bullets had struck him. The gun was a 32 Winchester Special, which is



practically the same as a 30-30.

The bears were mating and this fact probably accounts for their unusually temper. The bears measured 1780 and 1680 m.m. The hind foot of the ♂ measured 407 m.m. while that of the ♀, which was smaller, measured 325.

Bear had been quite common on the bare mountain tops during the early spring but had scattered far and wide by the time we were there.

We saw many places on the mountain top where bear had been clawing up the ground for meadow mice but none of the "digging" were fresh and so must have been made last fall.

Birds were quite common but not very many species were observed. The following are those birds that I saw.

29. Pidgeon Guillemont

Guillemonts were common but no nests were located.

44- Glaucous-winged Gull.

One or two were seen on a sand flat.

## 55. Short-Billed Gull -

Only one bird of this species was seen.

## 129. American Merganser -

A lone ♀ was seen in the creek.

## 172b. White-necked Goose -

A flock of 31 geese flew by and lit on the tide flat early one morning.

## 297a. Sooty Grouse -

Two ♀♀ were secured, <sup>one</sup> by Mr. Littlejohn and one by Miss Alexander.

## 302 - Rock Ptarmigan -

Mr. Stephens shot a ♂ Ptarmigan on the summit of the mountain between 2500 and 2600 ft elevation. About 3 o'clock in the morning of June 25 I saw another ptarmigan shoot down the mountain side. Both of these birds were about  $\frac{1}{2}$  winter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  summer plumage and were very conspicuous. They were evidently lying low in the patches of scrub hemlock trees near the summit as I found white ptarmigan feathers in almost every clump.

## 332 - Sharp-shinned Hawk -

A single specimen was seen near camp.

352 a. Northern Bald Eagle.

A pair staid around the mouth of the creek.

375 c. Dusky Horned Owl (?)

I spent the most of one afternoon following a mob of crows which were chasing a large owl. I got several good views of the owl but could not get close enough to get a shot.

401 a. Alaska three toed Woodpecker.

Mr. Littlejohn shot one while we were eating dinner at an altitude of 2000 ft. on the mountain. Mr. Hasselborg saw another.

478. Steller Jay -

Not common.

489. Northwest Crow -

Abundant. The young were just out of the nest and were very noisy. The old ones gathered clams and other marine life on the tide flats. I watched one crow break a particularly large clam by dropping it on a rock while he was 25 or 30 feet above it. It took several trials.

## 515c. Kodiak Pine grosbeak (?)

I secured 6 pine grosbeaks on the morning of June 25 at an altitude of about 1800 feet. They were feeding in the underbrush among a thick tangle of "windfalls". This was at the lower edge of the snow and the small plants and shrubs were just coming up and the grosbeaks were feeding on tender weeds mainly, altho two had their mouths and throats full of green caterpillars about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long. The flight of these birds was similar to that of the black-headed grosbeak but the song was characteristically individual but still had a strong grosbeak accent to it. One ♂ was in the bright red plumage while all were in breeding condition.

## 523 Aleutian Leucosticte (?)

Several leucostictes were seen feeding around the rock slides and snow banks near the summit of the mountain and one was shot with a rifle. I had 2 good shots at one and saw several but failed to secure a specimen.

533. Pine Siskin  
Abundant.

542 b. Western Savanna Sparrow  
Several were secured (breeds).

581 f. Looty Song Sparrow  
Several were secured. (breeds)

583 - Lincoln Sparrow (?)  
Several were secured. (breeds)

585a - Townsend Sparrow  
Very common up on the mountain where full fledged young were seen. At the same time another pair were building a nest.

522 White-winged Crossbill.

I shot an adult ♀ on June 24.

741 Chestnut Backed Chickadee.

A pair were secured near camp.

749. Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Not common

759. Alaska Hermit Thrush  
Several were seen

761 Am. Robin

Common on the mountain

763 a Northern Varied Thrush

Several were secured. (one bird of the year)

## South Marble Island

Glacier Bay, Alaska

On July 5 Mr. Hasselborg and I made another attempt to investigate the bird life on South Marble Island. We left camp shortly after 3 o'clock in the morning on the launch which took us the first 9 miles of our journey.

The rest of the way was thru thick floating ice. We managed to crowd the canoe over or thru the ice and reached the island shortly before noon.

The island, as indicated by the name <sup>is a</sup> large mound of marble rock, which is for the most part smooth and steeply sloping to the water's edge. There are a few alders and a kind of large-leaved willow growing in wet places. Altho the island is ~~only~~ about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile long it has several little streams <sup>trickling</sup> down it. The highest part of the island is perhaps 100 ft.

Glaucous-winged Gulls and Pelagic cormorants were the chief inhabitants while Pidgeon Guillemots and

Trufted Puffins were quite common. Only about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the gulls present were nesting and most of the sets were complete. No young gulls were seen. Sets of 2 were about as common as sets of three.

There were 2 colonies of Pelagic cormorants; one of breeding birds and the other consisted of non breeders. There were at least 100 cormorants breeding on the island and about 150 or 200 were roosting there. Only breeding birds were seen during the day but about 7 o'clock the other black non-breeders began to arrive in bunches of from 4 to 7. They left about 4 o'clock in the morning.

The nests were stuck onto the sloping marble just before it dropped into salt water and were from 15 to 25 feet above the high tide mark. Most of the nests were not finished but 4 contained 1 egg. The white patches on the flanks and the double crest was very noticeable in the breeding



birds and most of the males had the white hair-like feathers on the neck. The non-breeders had no white flank patches.

While on the nest the cormorants kept uttering an unusually mournful groaning sound and might be very easily mistaken for some one in pain. The nests were compactly built of moss gathered near by and not sea-weed.

The Tufted Puffins were nesting in the crevices in the rocks along with the Pidgeon Guillemots. One pair of Horned Puffins were secured but they were the only ones seen.

A pair of Parasitic Jaegers kept chasing a Duckhawk about the island. A Least Sandpiper was secured at a little pool and Townsend Sparrows were breeding. Hermit Thrushes were common as were Savanna Sparrows. One pair of Barn Swallows were seen.

No indication of mammals were in evidence at all.



# Glacier Bay Alaska

June 27 - July 10

In point of specimens this is the best place that we have struck yet.

Meadow mice, shrews, red-backed mice and pine squirrels are common and porcupines seem to be fairly common back in the woods away

Indian dogs run wild all thru the woods. Marmots seem to be very rare on this, the east side of the bay; evidently the result of Indian + Indian dogs. Black bear are scattered thru the woods but are scarce as are the brown bear one of which was killed with her cub. We have seen no bats here. Hasselborg saw signs of mink and otter back towards the mountain 7 or 8 miles on the river near the lakes.

We have found several species of birds here that we have not found elsewhere. Parasitic Jaegers are following the Arctic Terns about while Kittitz Murrelets are very

abundant near a small island  
6 or 8 miles north of here. Song Sparrows  
were abundant on a small sandy  
island some 15 miles north of here  
but Townsend Sparrows do not seem  
to be abundant anywhere. The Savanna  
Sparrows are met with quite commonly  
on the islands too.

Mr. Stephens secured one reeper  
and Hasselborg saw an other. Perhaps  
the most interesting take was that of  
a ♂ Townsend Warbler on July 5. The  
bird attracted <sup>Mr. Hasselborg's</sup> attention by its scolding  
and from its action there was evidently  
a nest nearby. but Hasselborg could not  
find it. The ♂ kept coming closer  
and finally Hasselborg shot at it  
with his "bear gun". The bullet  
struck an alder and a chip flew and  
hit the bird and killed it. The bird  
proved to be an adult ♂ with testes well  
but not unusually developed. No other  
specimens of this species were seen or  
secured in this vicinity but I am  
quite sure that this bird was breeding.

# West Side Glacier Bay.

July 10 - July 20.

(Copper mine Cove)

Our camp was made in a strawberry patch in a little cove some 4 or 5 miles south of Berg Bay. There is a copper prospect back a couple of miles from this point and trails had been cut thru the woods and up thru the brush on the mountain side so we had easy access to a portion of the country.

We found the following mammals at this locality.

Black Bears had been caught in steel traps and dead falls set by the Indians until only a few remained. We saw where one had been trying to dig out a marmot from under an old rotten log but he had not been successful.

We saw no signs of brown bear.

Porcupines had been abundant 4 or 5 years previous to our visit but the Indians had killed and evidently eaten the vast majority of them.

## Whistler or ground hogs

Hoary marmots were quite common on the bare grassy mountain tops and in the large grass covered boulders on and near the beach. They did not whistle much and some did not whistle at all. They were not particularly shy and two were killed with No 4 & 6 shot. The marmots varied amazingly in color and no two of the 7 secured were alike in color. Some were dark with white noses and grey, almost, white hairs about the head and shoulders. Others had more white hairs and one was hoary almost all over. One brown one was seen. The young were about  $\frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  grown, had finer hair and were darker than the adults, as a rule. They loomed up in the fog on the mountain top and look as big as a black bear. One was shot for a black bear and the hunter was no "green horn" either as he was well acquainted with both marmots and bear. The marmots usually ~~stop~~ at the mouths of their holes just before they go down and even when hit with a 30-30 soft point

bullet they usually managed to fall over into their holes and if they got started head first they would slide down out of reach.

Shrews were seen around the "ground hog" dens and at one time 3 were seen eating the clotted blood where a marmot had been killed a couple of days previous. They were almost invariably eaten up when caught in traps; evidently the work of other shrews.

One red backed mouse was caught. No meadow mice were found on the mountain tops but they were common in and about the strawberry patches on the beach. They ate the straw berries as fast as they ripened. No white-footed mice could be found. Pine squirrels were not common. No bats were seen.

The following birds were observed.

7- Loon.

Several were seen in a small lake back from the beach and eggs had

been found in May.

29- Ridgen Guillemont -

Several were seen off shore.

12- Tufted Puffin -

An adult and a "chicken" just out of the shell were secured on July 17.

21- Ancient Murrelet -

An immature ♂ was secured on July 17. Only one other was seen.

23- Marbled Murrelet.

One ♀ was secured on July 17.

24 Kittitz Murrelet.

Many hundreds of these murrelets were feeding on some small crustacean in the straits among the islands in the middle of the bay near its mouth. They were wild as a rule but some would fly around or past the boat within easy range. When we would shoot into a passing bunch and kill one; the others would sometimes light right down and one would think that they had killed the whole flock. These murrelets get off of the water quicker than the others. They

come up flying.

40a Pacific Kittiwake

A flock of 200 or 300 kittiwakes were feeding and sitting around on the ice bergs near the mouth of a creek. Two were secured on July 13.

44. Glaucous-winged Gull.

Common.

123. Pelagic Cormorant.

Common among the ice bergs where they were fishing.

165. White-winged Scoter

Common.

223 Northern Phalarope.

Flocks of 400 or 500 were seen on the way over. One was shot on July 17.

263. Spotted Sandpiper.

A ♀ and set of 4 incubated eggs were secured on July 14. The nest was under two little willows on a sand flat. It was just a small hole 3 in. in diameter and 1 inch deep lined with dry willow leaves. The ♀ was very artful and made no noise.

## 297a. Sooty Grouse.

A ♀ with a flock of young were encountered on July 11. The youngster flew up on the alders and sat perfectly motionless.

## 302. Rock Ptarmigan.

The wings and broken egg shells of a ptarmigan were found on top of the ~~mount~~ mountain (2100 ft.) and search revealed the nest and more broken eggs under a stunted hemlock.

Some fox or other animal had evidently surprised the bird on the nest.

## 337 b. Western Red-tail.

A pair of red tails hunted about the lakes and were seen flying overhead almost daily. An adult male was secured by Hasselborg on July 19.

## 347 a. Am. Rough-legged Hawk.

A pair of rough-legged hawks had a nest on a limestone cliff on the beach. They first attracted attention by their plaintive whistle and by swooping down at one's head. The ♂ was particularly vicious. Both parents



were secured and three half grown young were taken from the nest.

They were of a very retiring nature and would cower and stick their heads down if approached. If molested too much they would sit back and make vicious grabs with their talons. On

July 19 two of them weighed 25 + 26 oz. respectively. The other one had run off and hid in the bushes near camp and we never could find him.

403a. Northern Red-breasted Sapsucker.

Hasselborg shot one on July 19.

433. Rufous Hummer.

Several were seen.

464 - Western Flycatcher.

Several were seen and 2 were shot. A nest with 3 fresh eggs were found on July 19. The nest was up against the trunk of a sapling about 6 feet above the ground. It was compactly built of moss.

486a. Northern Raven

A family of 5 staid around camp.

489 Northwest Crow.

Common.

515d. Kadiak Pine Grosbeak.

We saw a number of pine grosbeaks. The males were wont to perch on the tip top of a spruce tree and utter a jerky song at intervals of 2 or 3 minutes. They sang at all hours. One was sitting out in the heavy rain at 3 o'clock in the morning, singing away just as cheerily as tho it was a bright sunny day. The males were hard to approach when singing and would dive off into the brush before you could get near them. Their habits reminded me very much of the olivesided fly catcher in Southern Calif.

Sometimes we found them feeding in the alders. They were then easily approached. We thought that they were feeding on the alder buds at first ~~as~~ they were picking them to pieces but we found later that they were after a small brown chrysalis within the buds. They also had eaten a number

of small green caterpillars about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in long. One brilliant red male was secured. Judging from the <sup>5</sup>specimens secured I think that they either had eggs or young at this time, probably young.

533. Pine Siskin.

One lone siskin was secured.

542a Savanna Sparrow.

Nested commonly on the flats near the beach.

567a Oregon Junco.

One male was secured July 12.

613. Barn Swallow.

A colony of 50 nested on the cliffs near camp. The young were half grown on July 15.

685b. Golden Pileolated Warbler.

Common along the creek.

741. Chestnut-backed Chickadee.

A small flock was seen on July 16.

748a<sup>w.</sup> Golden-crowned Kinglet.

One specimen was secured July 13.

749. Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Several were seen.

# 459c Almar Thrush

A breeding ♂ was secured July 17. and several others were seen. Unlike the Hermit Thrush they get out in the open tree tops and sing.

# 763a Northern Varied Thrush.

A nest containing 4 newly hatched young ~~was~~ found July 16. The nest was in the drooping boughs of a fir tree about 7 feet up. Old thrush nests were abundant in the woods but the thrushes had evidently raised their young and scattered.

## The Duckhawks

Three <sup>motherless</sup> downy, young duckhawks were taken from a nest at Danger Point near Killisnoo, Admiralty Island on June 16, 1907. There was a noticeable gradation in their size even at this time. The largest one was just getting his eyes opened and began to take some notice of things going on about him. On June 19 the three weighed  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , 6 and 7 ounces. The largest one was evidently the first egg hatched and was always 3 or 4 days ahead of the smallest in strength, weight and wit. This large one was inclined to "hog" everything he could when it came meal time; in fact it was a case of "survival of the fittest" with them all; each one being ready to grab any thing he could out of the mouth of the others. I gave them plenty to eat and most of their time was spent in sleeping and eating so they grew amazingly. In five days they almost

doubled in weight as they weighed 9,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and 12 oz. on June 24. During the month following they traveled several hundred miles on board the launch but a rough sea seemed just to improve their appetites instead of making them sea sick.

They were not particular as to their food as long as it was fresh meat, but they preferred bird bodies to mice.

On June 30 they weighed 12-18 and 20 ounces. They had tremendous appetites and could almost eat their own weight of meat every day. At this time the largest one began to develop a few dark pin feathers and one day he discovered what his feet were made for.

On July 6 they weighed 20-23 and 25 ounces. The largest one began to flap his wings and hop along down the hill and once he gave vent to a genuine "duckhawk" cry. From this on, they did not increase much in weight but went mostly to feathers.

A few days previous to this

the middle-sized one became listless and refused to eat. This indicated that there must be something radically wrong with it as the appetite had been the biggest thing about the bird. Things grew worse and it would just stand around and squall most of the time, so it couldn't eat anything. I finally gave it two large doses of castor oil but even that did not relieve it. It grew worse and on the 8<sup>th</sup> I decided that it would be more merciful to kill it rather than let it starve to death. A post mortem revealed the cause of the trouble. Its stomach was distended to the utmost capacity with hair, shot moss and other foreign substances of such a nature that would not form into pellets that could be thrown up.

I was away from camp for a week so did not see much of the duck hauls for a while. The next time I saw them I could scarcely believe that such a change could be wrought



in so short a time. Instead of a "frayed out", half fuzz-half feathered bird I now saw a beautiful falcon with clean bright plumage and a general clear cut neat appearance.

The little one seemed ashamed of its juvenile clothes too and could be seen sitting on the tent pulling out the old <sup>fuzzy</sup> feathers as fast as it could. It would grab a piece of down brace its self and give a hard yank and out came the feather.

By this time they began to hop around on the boxes and liked to sit on top of the tent when the sun was shining. They were very sociable and would come in the tent if they could and seemed much interested in the work but they were most interested in bird bodies or would get on to a wad of cotton or some other soft warm place and nestle down and go to sleep.

One July 21 the large one weighed 26 oz and the other 25 oz. They seemed to have reached <sup>about</sup> their full size as the

large one began to fly on this date. He was particularly "sassy" and was ready to fight anything at the "drop of the hat".

As they were sitting on the tent a crow came "cawing" over them. They both ~~let~~ out a defiant "duckhawk" war cry and did not seem to be in the least bit afraid. The smaller one died a few days later and from that time on I heard the older one utter the "duckhawk" yell only once. He seemed to <sup>miss</sup> his mate very much and spent most of the time gazing wistfully up into the blue.

In July 23 or practically six weeks after they hatched, the oldest duckhawk was able to fly and after that I had to keep him tied to a long piece of fish line to keep him from flying away altogether.







Idaho Inlet, Chicago Island  
July 20-25-1907

The country surrounding the head of Idaho Inlet is very mountainous and rough. In fact this is the roughest place that we have found on Elizabeth Island many of the mountains being 3000 ft only 2 or 3 miles back from salt water. Good camping grounds were not to be had so we located on an island so as to be rid of the Indians and mosquitoes.

At the head of the Inlet there is a large tide flat which runs bare for 2 miles at low tide. Back of this tide flat there is a dense swamp of salmon berry and devil's club, spruce cabbage and fallen trees so that it is almost impossible to wade thru it. The magpies are thereby millions and don't hesitate for an introduction before they present their bills. A salmon creek runs along one side of the swamp and <sup>from</sup> exs. were came out to catch salmon nearly.

every night but they had away in the swamp in the day time and could not be found.

*Myrotus* runways were abundant in the salt marsh meadows. Here they had cut wide trails (2 to 3 inches) along the bottoms of small ditches and in places had dug up mounds of sand and fine soil that occurred in places. Just in front of one of the tents at camp there was a meadow mouse that was digging in the loose sown under a large spruce tree.

He would burrow down in the ground and then push the dirt out with his fore legs just like a *Thomomys*. These mounds were 1 to 2 inches across and 4 to 6 inches high and were similar in every respect to gopher "diggings". I watched the mouse at work for several different occasions before I became convinced that it was not a gopher as I had never known a *Myrotus* to dig in the ground and throw out mounds of earth like a gopher before.

In the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> I saw a half-grown meadow mouse



Swim from a small island to a larger one at least 50 feet away. He was evidently forced to leave the smaller island on account of the rising tide so he struck out bravely and was across in less than 2 minutes.

Shrews seemed to be fairly common and Mr. Stephens caught several.

Peromyscus were rare only two were taken.

One deer was seen.

It rained every day of our stay so we did not see many species of birds.

23 Marbled Murrelet.

One adult and 3 immature birds with white tips on the mandibles were shot.

40 a. Pacific Tittawabe.

10 or a dozen birds of this species flew around near camp on several occasions.

60 Bonaparte Gull

A flock of about 100 were seen and 6 secured on July 23. One bird was about half winter plumage already.

## 263. Spotted Sandpiper.

A pair of Sandpiper evidently had a nest along the creek in the gravel patches as a pair chased along after me for at least half a mile and were very solicitors.

## 355. Marlequin Duck.

A flock of 7 supposedly young birds were often seen but those of the flock that we secured were adult females.

## 382a. Northern Bald Eagle -

Common. One shot measured 6 ft 9 in.

## 390. Belted Kingfisher

One was seen on July 23.

## 486a. Northern Raven

A pair were seen July 21.

## 54. Northwest Crow.

Common.

## 567a. Oregon Junco.

One was seen July 27 at an altitude of 1500 ft.

## 585a. Townsend Sparrow.

A deserted nest containing 4 fresh(?) eggs was found which I took to be of this species.

614 Tree Swallow.

A number of swallows were seen but most of those shot were birds of the year.

515 ~~♂~~ Kadiak Pine Grosbeak.

Seen twice and heard many times.

542 ~~♂~~ <sup>Western</sup> Savanna Sparrow.

One was seen in the meadow.

583. Lincoln Sparrows (!)

One was shot by Stephens.

761. Am. Robin.

Several were seen.

## Port Frederick

On July 25 we again made camp in Port Frederick. This body of water extends farther west than is shown on the "Survey Maps" and there is a 60 yard portage connecting it with Tenakee Inlet near its head. We made camp about 3 miles below the portage which was being quite frequently used by Indians at this time.

It rained every day, except one, that we staid there and few mammals were caught. Shrews were not common and Peromyscus were scarce. Bear had been feeding in the various salmon streams but they came down during the night and were not at all plentiful as we hunted all week and didn't see any. Three bucks were seen together in a meadow near the top of the mountain. Their horns were still in the velvet on July 30.

Birds were a little more numerous and we observed the following.

### 23. Marbled murrelet.

Quite common but the majority of those seen were birds of the year. The murrelets were seen flying swiftly over head uttering a sharp twittering cry, early in the morning and during the evening and night. They flew so high and so swiftly that they could scarcely be seen. There were usually two together during these flights.

44- Glaucous-winged Gull  
Not common

60- Bonaparte Gull  
Common

132- Mallard

A single pair was seen.

172 b. White checked Goose.

On July 27 a flock of about 50 geese were seen out on a large tide flat on a sand bar. They were mostly young birds that couldn't fly as yet.

A young of some species of Sandpiper was found in the grass but I could not satisfy myself as to the

identity of the parent.

### 302. Rock Ptarmigan

Three rock ptarmigans were flushed from the crags on the summit of a mountain, 2725 feet on July 30.

The north side of the summit broke off in a ragged cliff 200 or 300 feet high and the ptarmigan were lying in the shade on some small heather covered ledges near the top. I had crawled down away when one trotted out on a rock that jutted out about 25 feet below me. The grey feathers on the bird's back blended with such harmony with the rock that had it remained motionless I would not have seen it.

I shot this one and at the report two more jumped up and dropped off the cliff and I got another one as it went. The one that got away had conspicuous white wing feathers when flying and evidently was minus a tail as I couldn't see any. After some considerable difficulty I secured the two birds from a 20 ft. snow bank

at the bottom of the cliff. They were losing their summer plumage and new whitepin feathers were coming in all over their under parts.

One had no tail and the other had only 2 <sup>dark</sup> pin feathers in his tail. Their crops were full of heather buds.

337 b. Western Redtail.

Two adults and one immature were secured near a meadow that abounded with mycrotus upon which the hawks were living as testified by their presence in the stomachs of the hawks.

352 a Northern Bald Eagle.

A ♀ was shot on July 29 that had a spread of 7 ft. 9 in; length 37 inches and weight 15 lbs. The stomach and throat ~~were~~ stuffed with rotten salmon.

Some species of owl proved a source of aggravation to me for several nights. On a calm evening it would begin to hoot from the summit of a densely wooded rocky ridge back of camp.



Every time that I would climb up near it it would shut up and as soon as I would get down on the beach again it would resume calling. The note was a single mellow hoot uttered at intervals of about 10 seconds but I could never discover the author.

478 - Steller Jay  
Several came around camp

486a - Northern Raven  
Present as usual

489 - Northwest Crow  
Same as Raven

515c. Kodiak Pine grosbeak  
Seen and heard a number of times

401 a. Alaska Threetoed Woodpecker  
Mr. Hasselborg shot one with his rifle.

533. Pine Siskin  
One family seen

542 b. Western Savanna Sparrow  
Several were seen in the meadow

583. Lincoln Sparrow.  
Seen also in the edges of the meadow among clumps of willow

Red breasted nuthatch -  
one seen.

75

555a. Townsend Sparrow.

An immature of this species  
was caught in a mouse trap set for  
shrews.

567. Oregon Junco.

Several were seen on the mountain  
side.

433- Rufous Hummer.

One was seen on July 29

613. Barn Swallow

Several were seen circling over the  
meadow.

614. Tree Swallow

Same as Barn Swallow.

646a Lutescent Warbler

Only one was observed.

701 Am. Dipper

One stood in the creek and was  
evidently feeding on salmon eggs.

722a Western Winter Wren

An immature was shot July 30.

741 Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Seen several times

749a Satka Kinglet (?)

Rare.

761. Robin Common

## Hawk Inlet Admiralty Island.

We left Port Frederick on the morning of Aug. 1; stopped on the way at Honiah, and made Hawk Inlet about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The land around Hawk Inlet slopes back in large rolling hills to the large flat topped mountains some 4000 feet high.

Timber line is much higher here than on Chichagof as it averaged about 3000 feet <sup>here</sup> to 1500 feet on Chichagof. There were two salmon creeks coming into the mouth of Hawk Inlet and the big salmon and humpies were running upstream in large numbers. Bear were fairly common around these salmon streams but they did not venture as near the beach as they had been hunted so much that they had become wary. Back about two miles from the beach there

was a patch of windfall about a half mile wide and three quarters of a mile long which was one of the worst that we had found yet; and that was saying a good deal. A new growth and spring up covering the old dead tree trunks and had grown so thick that it was impossible to see more than 10 or 20 feet in any direction.

Bears found easy places to make nice dry beds under the upturned tree trunks, and we judged from the various sized tracks that there were at least 10 bears staying in that one patch of windfall.

From this patch there were broad ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 ft.) well trodden trails leading down to the salmon creek along which were various other smaller trails going in almost every direction.

The bottom of the creek was also all tracked up where the bears had been catching salmon.

On account of the shifting winds it was difficult to get near enough to see a bear before he got wind of us and made off. On at least half a dozen occasions we found salmon that were still swimming where the bear had heard or more probably sensed us coming and had dropped his fish and made off. Then again the water would still be muddy when we had crossed a bar of water just ahead of us and we would find a bear swimming off in the brush in his haste to get away.

Rasselborg got his first bear on Aug 2 and was swimming down the stream and at first started a mile or more behind the old root of a windfall when he saw something down the head of the creek. At two the bear was not more than 30 feet from him and he could not make it out for sure on account of the thick alder and berry bushes. The bear began to get suspicious and looked up

and stuck her nose up and snuffed around to see if she could locate the cause of the disturbance. This was Hasselborg's chance. She went back from the hi-to-stomach series to throat passed between her shoulders and tore on down thru one lung and passed out thru the belly. She got up again with a kind of half growl-half roar and H. shot twice more one of which broke her neck, as we had she grabbed the head of a cub and bore it in her mouth and chewed it savagely. She had it grasped so firmly in her jaws that we had to pry them apart the next day to get the flesh out. This was a ♀ that had evidently just mated her cubs. She was 5 ft. 10 in. long and was evidently an old bear. She was beginning to put on fat and her stomach was stuffed full of salmon. Her fur was nothing but hair which was thick glossy and uniform in length over most of the upper parts. The bear by this time had begun to

put on a little fat and they had lost their chuffed, scraggy appearance and were becoming sleek and plump. When rolling about in the parks in the sunshine their hair seemed to have a golden sheen. The bear we accustomed to do most of their fishing during the night over the early morning or late evening. They spent the middle of the day curled up in beds on the ridges where they could have a good lookout.

Sasseborg got his next bear by tracking him up from the salmon creek until he found him lying under a large windfall on the edge of a large patch of windfalls. The trees had grown up tall and straight and thick. The ground was covered with old rotten logs and dead saplings. When H. saw the bear first it just had its head over a log watching him. It was about 75 yards uphill and the first shot, which was intended to get him between the eyes, struck the bone



just above and to one side of the eye. This caused it to ~~rush~~ ~~come~~ ~~and~~ ~~leave~~ the jacket. The bullet then passed thru the cheek and neck, down between the spine and shoulder blade, cut a large artery in the lungs as it passed thru, on thru the intestines and out of the body just in front of the hind leg.

The bear jumped up, turned around two or three times; then made a bee-line down the hill for Hasselborg who kept pumping the lead into him. The bear didn't waste any time dodging about in the trees. He meant business. The fifth shot found Hasselborg with an empty gun in his hand and the bear just getting up again. Hasselborg jammed his hand in his pocket and pulled out 4 shells but dropped two of them in his hurry. By this time the bear was almost upon him and was coming strong. Hasselborg took two snap shots at a few feet distant and made a flying

leap to one side over some logs, loading as he went. The bear was beginning to get sick by this time and when he went to turn his momentum was so great that he went on down the hillside where he wallowed around a while, then turned up his toes.

This bear was almost black and must have been not more than 3 or 4 years old as we could cut his ribs into easily with one slash of the pocket knife. He was 6 feet 6 in. long. His neck was 12 inches thick, while his front paw was 7 inches wide.

His forearm was 20 inches in circumference 2 inches below the elbow.

His hind foot, including the claws was 13 inches long. His intestine was 72 feet long and 2 inches in diameter.

We found when we skinned him that six out of the seven bullets had hit him. The gun was a 45-70. 1886 model Winchester.

The bullets were the 405 grain soft-point backed by smokeless powder so the bear possessed wonderful vitality.

In certain places we found "rubbing trees" where the bears had been scratching their backs. Every bear that came along that trail stopped and rubbed just as a dog trots up to register at the corner of a store building. Some of them had rubbed back off as high up as

8 feet from the ground. Some trees had great scars where the bear had bitten out chunks of bark and wood. Where a bear left a "rubbing tree" he would walk off and slam his feet down as hard as he could, making deep tracks in the soft ground.

Shrews were quite common in the grass along the beach and I caught 3 in one trap in one day.

Mr. Stephens caught two weasels that were living in and about the old cabin.

Peromyscus were almost abundant about old camping places. Mr. Passelborg caught 15 during one night in three common mice traps. He set one trap at the head of his bed, one in the middle; and one at the foot and then went to bed. As fast as he heard a trap go off he would reach over and take the dead mouse out, so it was a continual performance.

Meadow mice were fairly common in certain places in the broad grassy meadows near the mouth of the Salmon creek.

Birds were not particularly abundant altho we saw more than at Port Frederick or Idaho Inlet on Chicagof Island. I noted the following  
25 Marbled Murrelet.

Between 25 and 50 were seen during our stay. They were flying high over the woods during the evening.

55 Short Billed Gull.

A large flock staid around the flat near the mouth of the big Salmon creek.

60 Bonaparte Gull.

Common. Some were almost in winter plumage Aug. 8.

29. Pidgeon Guillemot

Common

165 White-winged Scoter

Quite common

352 a Northern Bald Eagle

common around the salmon creeks

393c. Harris Woodpecker.

One was secured on Aug. 5.

478 Stellar Jay.

Six or eight came around camp.

486a Northern Raven

Not common

489 Northwest Crow

Common

390 Belted Kingfisher

One family seen.

567 a Oregon Junco

Common. mostly birds of the year.

581f. Sooty Song Sparrow

Secured one and saw others.

585a. Townsend Sparrow

Quite common

722a Western Winter Wren

One got into a mouse trap.

759 Alaska Hermit Thrush

Not common.

763a Northern Varied Thrush

One seen Aug. 5.

Escondido, San Diego Co, California.

I spent the Christmas vacation (Dec. 24 - Jan. 2) at home, but only collected at intervals.

Coyotes were as plentiful as ever among the hills. The abundant rains during the past four years resulted in a large increase in the number of voles and other mice.

This increase of mice may account for the increase in grey foxes for I caught three in three nights, where I had never caught any before, altho I had trapped there repeatedly during several years. I set two steel traps about three feet apart and the next morning I had a grey fox in one and a big skunk in the other. It was hard to tell which was which when I came to skin them.

I saw a number of wildcat tracks but did not catch any. Ground squirrels were not so much in evidence as they had been, while gophers were about holding their own. I was surprised to find the



poiket mice still active as I found three that had eaten poison wheat put out for ground squirrels.

Brown rabbits were not so plentiful as they used to be and cottontails were becoming quite scarce in the valley.

Jack rabbits were holding their own where they kept to the shelter of the brush and fir groves.

With the exception of the bats, all of the animals seemed to be active and were in very good condition.

# Redwood City - San Mateo Co. Calif.

January 11<sup>th</sup> was spent with Mr. Littlejohn hunting mice back of Redwood. Back in the hills there were a number of old board fences that had been previously torn down and the lumber piled in rows ready for hauling. Owing to the wet weather this had been delayed and it seemed as tho all of the mice in the neighborhood knew it as they had made their nests under the boards.

All that we had to do was to repile the lumber and pick up the mice, many of which, were in a kind of stupor. We got about forty harvest mice, six shrews and seven or eight meadow mice in three hours. We found one nest that contained seven adult(?) harvest mice. Mr. Littlejohn had found one previously with thirteen in it. I found two litters of four, of young meadow mice. The first lot were only a few days old as they had no hair on them. The others were about the size of a California shrew and had considerable

hair on them but their eyes were still closed. We caught the female mice and put them in a tin can with the nest and young. When I got home I put them in a wooden cracker box with plenty of cotton and food. I put a screen over the top and piled four sticks of stove wood on top of it. The next morning the screen was off and the meadow mice had gone taking their young with them.

The harvest mice behaved better but killed and ate two of their number although they were fat and had plenty to eat.

I am inclined to think that these shrews prey on the harvest mice at times.















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